

BRUNSWICK COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Meeting Minutes – March 25, 2024

The Brunswick County Library Board met on March 25, 2024 in the Harper Library meeting room. Chair Jeff Mount called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Members present: Jeff Mount, Diana Dornfeld, Barbara Akinwole, Diana Fotinatos, June Jones, Marilyn Shapiro and Anne Smith representing a quorum.

Also present: Patricia Dew, Library Director; Jayne Mathews, FOL-Southwest Branch Library board member; Cindy Phillips, FOLSOI president; and Karen Robbins, Rourk FOL president.

Members absent: Emma Myles and Mary Stilwell.

The minutes of the January 22, 2024 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion to do so was made by Barbara Akinwole and seconded by Marilyn Shapiro.

Director Dew’s Report:

Budget

Anticipating County-revised budget this week. Highlights include:

- Doubling the book budget to \$400K
- 5 new positions: Bookmobile Librarian, Bookmobile Assistant, Tech Service Librarian, 2 Library Assistants (Harper, Barbee)
- \$40,000 for building maintenance and upgrades (carpet, furniture, etc.)
- All bookmobile-related things were moved to ARPA funding and won’t be in the Library budget!

Staff

BCL is fully staffed! Loren started at Leland, Forrest moved to PT, Krista started at SWB, and Carrie is starting at Rourk this week.

Services

IT is working on upgrading the Library phones but it’s been a process. The phones should hopefully be ported over the weekend. Additionally, through E-rate funding IT will be upgrading the wiring/infrastructure at Rourk, Barbee and Harper.

Newsletters are being emailed to subscribers regularly via LibraryAware. Any patron can sign up, but the Library won’t add someone without their consent (but subscribing to FOL newsletters counts as consent.)

Buildings

Nothing significant to report.

Unfinished Business:

Survey results and the BCL overall standings compiled by the State Library of North Carolina have been factored into the budget process and will continue to be factored into the overall

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management of the library system to continually better serve patrons of all ages throughout the county.

New Business:

Diana Dornfeld and June Jones, as a subcommittee of the board, will edit and provide a draft of the Brunswick County Library Gifts and Donations Policy for discussion and vote at the May meeting.

Public Comments:

No public comments.

The meeting was adjourned by Jeff Mount at 5:20 PM after a motion to do so was made by June Jones and seconded by Diana Dornfeld.

Upcoming meetings:

- Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 4:00 PM – Rourk Library, 5068 Main Street, Shallotte
- Monday, July 22, 2024 at 4:00 PM – Southwest Branch Library, 9400 Ocean Hwy W, Carolina Shores
- Monday, September 23, 2024 at 4:00 PM, ANNUAL MEETING – Leland Library, 487 Village Rd NE, Leland
- Monday, November 25, 2024 at 4:00 PM – Barbee Library, 8200 E. Oak Island Dr, Oak Island

Respectively submitted,
Diana Fotinatos, Board Secretary